

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1783

INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10636

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN POSITION ON KOREAN ISSUE AT 30TH UNGA

REF: USUN 5486, LAGOS 10579

1. GARBA AND SANUSI TIED UP ALL DAY IN UNEXPECTED MEETING OF FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND UNABLE TO SEE ANYONE. I THEREFORE HAD LONG TELEPHONE DISCUSSION ON KOREAN QUESTION WITH MEA AMERICAN DIVISION DIRECTOR UCHUNO FOLLOWED BY MEETING WITH HIM AND OBEBE, ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION.

2. UCHUNO AND OBEBE SAID THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO NIGERIAN DELEGATION HAD BEEN SENT "FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AGO." DELEGATION HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY REFUSED PERMISSION TO ABSTAIN BUT IS INSTRUCTED RATHER TO SUPPORT "ANY MEANINGFUL INITIATIVE" THAT WOULD MAINTAIN PEACE AND BRING ABOUT REUNIFICATION OF THE TWO KOREAS. IN THIS LIGHT, NIGERIA WOULD PUSH FOR DISBANDING THE UN COMMAND "AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED," TO BE REPLACED BY SOME KIND OF "REPRESENTATIVE" PEACE-KEEPING ENTITY THAT WOULD MORE REALISTICALLY

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REFLECT THE UNITED NATIONS MEMBERSHIP (LAGOS 9637). NIGERIAN DELE-

GATION SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF WHATEVER RESOLUTION BEST SERVED THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES.

3. UCHUNO REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHED TO THE WORD "MEANINGFUL." WE REVIEWED TEXTS OF BOTH RESOLUTIONS WORD FOR WORD WITH AN EYE TOWARD DETERMINING WHICH ONE SEEMED MORE RESPONSIVE IN CONTEXT OF INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN. UCHUNO AGREED THAT ANY PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS THAT DID NOT INCLUDE DISCUSSION WITH SOUTH KOREA COULD HARDLY BE "MEANINGFUL," AND HE AND OBEBE CONCURRED THAT IF HARRIMAN JUDGED THE ISSUE FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE, HE WOULD BE OBLIGED TO CHOOSE OUR RESOLUTION.

4. I MADE CLEAR THAT, WHEREAS BOTH RESOLUTIONS PROVIDE FOR DISSOLUTION UNC, THE SUPPORTERS OF THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION INTEND IT TO PRODUCE REMOVAL US TROOPS STATIONED IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER TERMS OF BILATERAL US-SOUTH KOREAN AGREEMENT. WHEREAS UCHUNO AND OBEBE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HARRIMAN'S INSTRUCTIONS ADDRESSED THE QUESTION OF CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THESE US TROOPS, THIS ISSUE MAY NONETHELESS AFFECT HARRIMAN'S ULTIMATE DECISION. (SEE EMBTEL 9637). I NOTED THAT NEITHER RESOLUTION SPECIFICALLY RESPONDED TO NIGERIA'S APPARENT INTEREST IN A REPRESENTATIVE BODY TO PRESERVE THE ARMISTICE, BUT I POINTED OUT THE STRESS OUR RESOLUTION PUT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING THAT AGREEMENT.

5. UCHUNO AND OBEBE STRESSED THAT HARRIMAN HAS BEEN CLEARLY INSTRUCTED NOT RPT NOT TO ABSTAIN OR BE ABSENT ON THE SUBSTANTIVE VOTES. I REPEATED THAT I JUDGED IT POSSIBLE--AND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF HARRIMAN'S INSTRUCTIONS AS DESCRIBED BY UCHUNO--FOR HARRIMAN TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF OUR RESOLUTION AND TO OPPOSE THE UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION. UCHUNO AND OBEBE AGREED WITH THE LOGIC OF THE POINT. HARRIMAN COULD DO THIS, IN MY VIEW, IF HE WERE PERSUADED THAT OUR RESOLUTION PROVIDES THE MORE EFFECTIVE AND "MEANINGFUL" POSSIBILITY OF PRESERVING THE PEACE AND BRINGING ABOUT EVENTUAL REUNIFICATION. IN THIS CONNECTION WE URGE USUN TO POINT OUT TO HARRIMAN THAT VIRTUALLY COMPLETE ABSENCE ANY "PRO-VISION IN HOSTILE RESOLUTION FOR PRESERVATION OF ARMISTICE STANDS IN SHARP CONTRAST WITH TERMS OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND WITH US WILLINGNESS EXPLORE UTILITY OF A LARGER CONFERENCE FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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PURPOSE OF NEGOTIATING A MORE FUNDAMENTAL AGREEMENT. OBEBE THOUGHT THAT SEVERAL ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE INTRODUCED THIS AFTERNOON THAT WOULD COMPLICATE THE QUESTION OF A CLEAR CHOICE BETWEEN THE TWO CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING TEXTS.

6. ALTHOUGH I AM CONFIDENT THAT BOTH GARBA DND SANUSI WERE INFORMED LAST NIGHT OF THE PURPOSE OF MY REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT, AND ALTHOUGH THEY WILL BE CERTAINLY MADE AWARE OF MY DEMARCHE

TODAY, IT IS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE THAT ANY NEW INSTRUCTION WILL BE SENT TO HARRIMAN. MEA BELIEVES THEY HAVE PROVIDED HIM WITH ALL THE GUIDANCE AND FLEXIBILITY HE SHOULD NEED.

7. HAVE TRIED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO TELEPHONE AF/W. EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS10636
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750375-0085
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751010/aaaaaiwr.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LAGOS 10579
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGERIAN POSITION ON KOREAN ISSUE AT 30TH UNGA
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, NI, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006